



# Montana's Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Programs

## Explanatory Comparison

 <h3>USDA Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program</h3>	 <h3>Department of Defense (DoD) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program</h3>
<p>The Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program is a USDA funded program that provides a free fresh fruit or vegetable <i>snack</i> to children in participating elementary schools throughout the school day, not during breakfast or lunch periods.</p>	<p>The USDA contracts with the DoD for the purchasing and distribution of high quality produce. Schools use USDA entitlement funds to purchase fresh fruit and vegetables for National School Lunch program <i>meals</i>.</p>
<h4>Why should schools participate?</h4>	
<p>Exposes children to new fruits and vegetables with a fresh snack during the school day to encourage greater consumption of fruits and vegetables as part of a healthy diet.</p>	<p>The goal of the DoD FFVP is to increase the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables to children in schools during school lunch, breakfast and afterschool snack programs.</p>
<h4>Who can participate?</h4>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Students at elementary school s with high free and reduced-price rates (School must participate in the National School Lunch Program).</li> <li>OPI, School Nutrition Programs sends an annual agreement to the eligible schools to participate.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Schools that participate in the National School Lunch Program receive USDA Foods entitlement funds. School Districts must apply each year for the DoD funds.</li> </ul>
<h4>What are the program goals and requirements?</h4>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provide fresh fruits and vegetables to all enrolled students a minimum of twice a week and widely publicize within the school.</li> <li>Nutrition education is encouraged with snack service.</li> <li>OPI provides training to learn the objectives and operations of the program.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The DoD program aims to use commodity dollars with economy of scale to purchase high quality fresh fruits and vegetables to enrich school nutrition meal programs.</li> </ul>
<h4>Which foods are authorized for purchase with these funds?</h4>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A variety of domestically-grown or exotic <i>fresh</i> fruits and vegetables should be served whole or sliced. Low-fat vegetable dips in 1-2 tablespoon servings are allowed, while fruit dips are not.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Domestically-grown fruits and vegetables are available on the FFAVORS (Fresh Fruits and Vegetables Order Receipt System) website. A produce catalog is displayed for your ordering selection.</li> </ul>
<h4>How can I place an order?</h4>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flexibility in purchasing fresh fruits and vegetables from vendors, local grocers, school gardens, or local producers.</li> <li>Purchasers can assign geographic preference to unprocessed local items.</li> <li><b>Cannot use DoD FFAVORS online ordering to place orders.</b></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Place orders with the Department of Defense's FFAVORS online ordering program.</b> This program requires an "eAuth" login ID and password. FFAVORS website: <a href="http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/ffavors.htm">http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/ffavors.htm</a></li> <li>Produce is delivered by the contracted delivery vendor Sysco.</li> </ul>

(FNS) Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program		DoD Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program	
Are there ordering limitations?			
▪ Items that are <i>not</i> authorized include the following: canned, frozen, dried and processed fruits and vegetables; fruit dips, trail mix, nuts, cottage cheese, fruit/vegetable pizza, smoothies, fruit injected with flavoring, carbonated fruit or non-food items not included in the administrative costs.		▪ Produce can only be ordered by logging into your FFAVORS account. A list of produce can then be selected from. Contact the distributing vendor for a delivery schedule for your area.	
When will I receive my orders?			
▪ Ordering methods may vary.		Orders submitted by Thursday usually arrive the following week. Weekly deliveries are available in most areas. For further questions contact Sysco.	
What are the costs?			
For both programs: The first allocation of funds must be spent by September 30 of each year. The second allocation of funds can be spent October 1-June 30 of the following year (by the end of the school year). Agencies are allotted a maximum amount of funds based on their average daily participation in the National School Lunch Program.			
What type of reporting is required?			
File monthly reimbursement claim on CNP website and keep accurate records on file including a monthly budget.		Track order receipts in FFAVORS.	
How will my agency be reimbursed?			
Schools are reimbursed operating costs and up to 10% administrative costs. Operating costs: preparation, produce costs and service labor, pre-cut or ready-made trays, plates, low-fat vegetable dips Administrative costs: purchasing and financial reporting, labor & equipment		All bills for produce ordered by participating schools for the DoD are sent to and paid by the USDA.	
Where will unused monies be directed?			
For both programs: The Office of Public Instruction will monitor funds in January of each year to remind each agency of their allotted funds. The monies unused by March will be reallocated to agencies ready to use the money. Any funds not spent by June 30 will be lost.			
Who can I contact for assistance?			
OPI School Nutrition Programs at 1-888-231-9393 or locally at 406-444-2501 Alison Wolf, Office of Public Instruction, <a href="mailto:aliew@mt.gov">aliew@mt.gov</a> Clay Hickman, Office of Public Instruction, <a href="mailto:chickman@mt.gov">chickman@mt.gov</a>		DoD / FFAVORS website: <b>Gwendolyn Crawford</b> , Account Vendor and Logistics Specialist, Defense Logistics Agency, Philadelphia, PA <a href="mailto:Gwendolyn.crawford@dla.mil">Gwendolyn.crawford@dla.mil</a> Phone (215) 737-2282	<b>Current DoD Distributing Vendor: Sysco MT</b> <b>Reaianna Forshee, Program Sales Executive</b> Work (406) 247-1996, Mobile (406) 855-4792 <a href="mailto:Forshee.reaianna@mt.sysco.com">Forshee.reaianna@mt.sysco.com</a> <i>For additional questions contact OPI</i>
What organizations can I partner with to enrich the program?			
OPI recommends partnerships with the whole school community including: student government, parent-teacher organizations, extension agents, health associations, local grocers, hospitals, dietitians and dietetic interns, County and State health and agriculture departments as well as State and National affiliates of the American Cancer, Diabetes and Heart Associations and School Nutrition Association.		▪ <b>Let's Move Salad Bars to Schools</b> - Engaging stakeholders at the local, state and national level to support salad bars in schools. ▪ <b>FoodCorps</b> - Connects kids to real food and helps them grow up healthy. ▪ <b>Chefs Move to Schools</b> - A website platform for chefs and schools to create partnerships in their communities with the mission of collaboratively educating kids about food and healthy eating.	